

SAMPLE ACQUISITION AND CACHING ARCHITECTURES FOR THE MARS2020 MISSION

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NASA's Mars Exploration Program



Launch Year

2000 to Present

2011

2013

2016

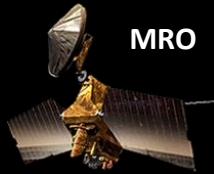
2018

2020 & Beyond

Mars Sample
Return



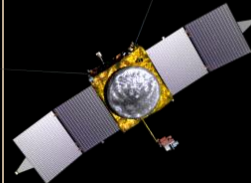
Odyssey



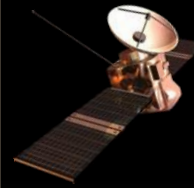
MRO



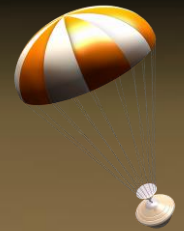
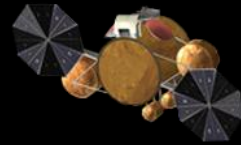
Mars Express
(ESA)



MAVEN



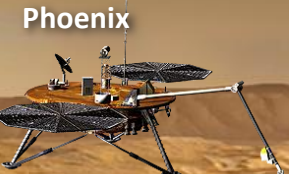
TGO
(ESA-NASA)



MER



MER



Phoenix



Mars Science Lab



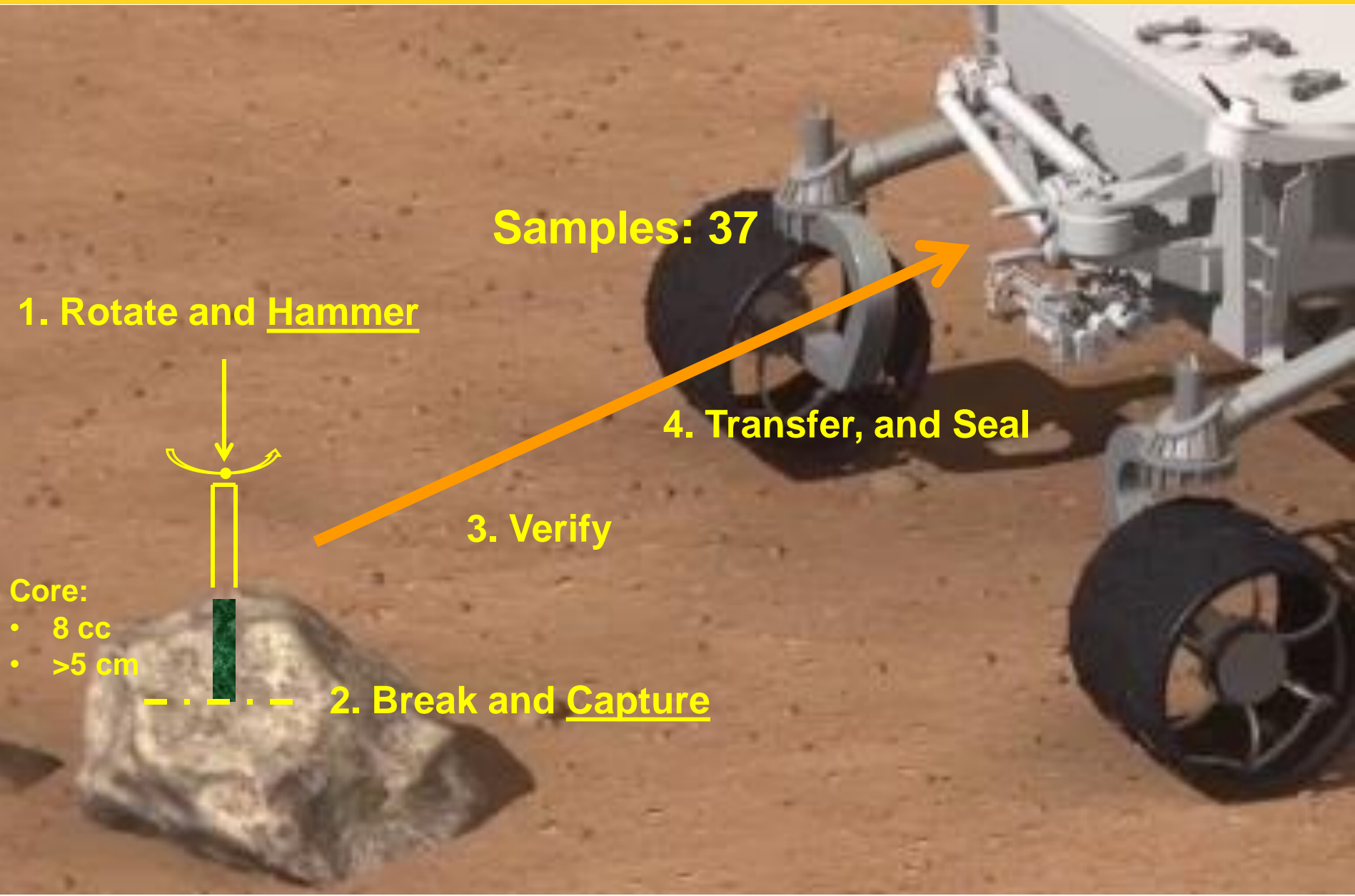
ExoMars



MAX-C Rover



Goal of the M2020 Sampling System

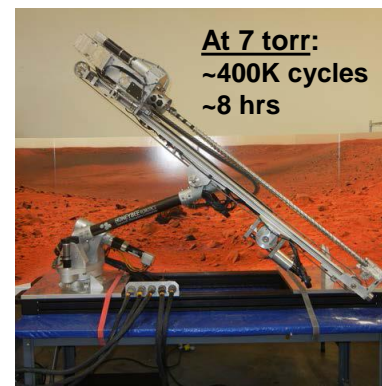
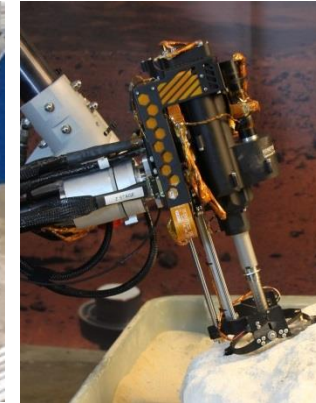
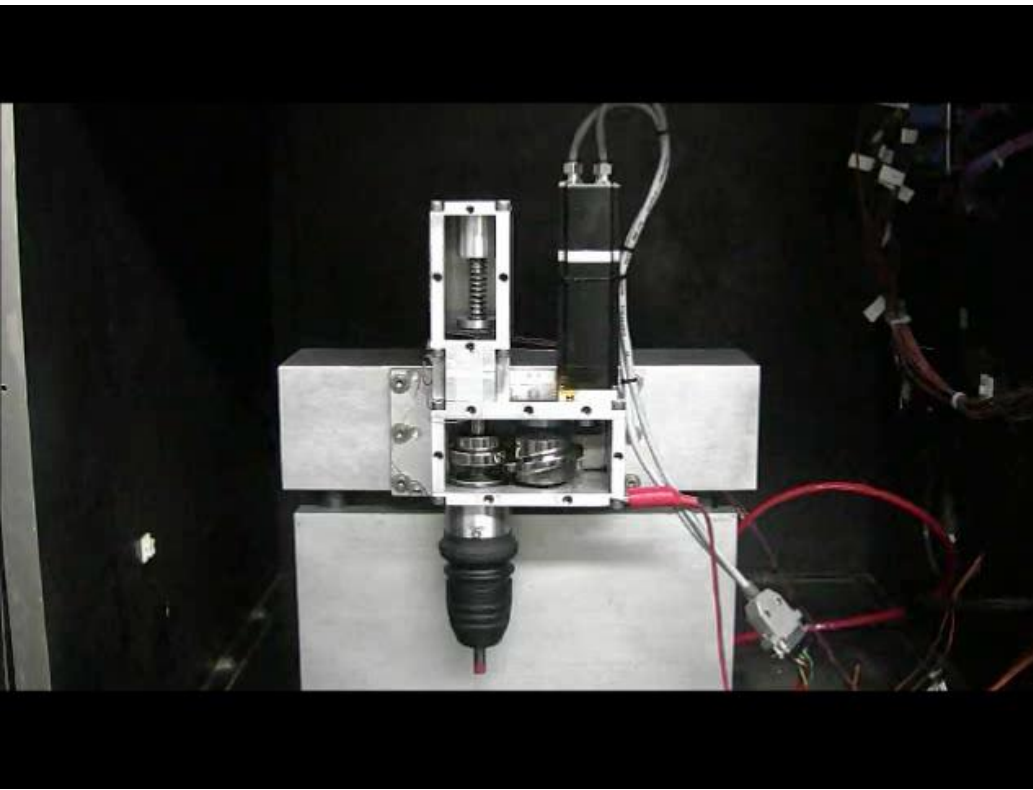
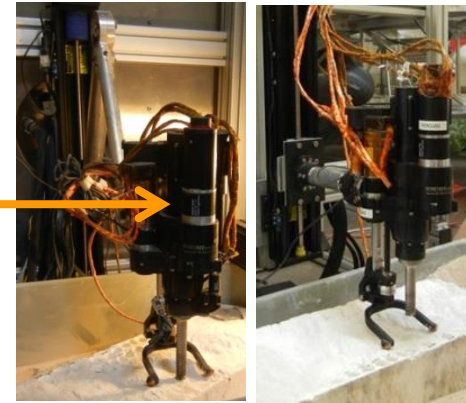


1. Hammer Mechanism

- Investigated various percussive approaches
- Selected cam-spring
 - Apollo “heritage”
 - Mechanically simple
 - Frequency and Energy can be adjusted
 - High blow energy per mechanism mass
- Incorporated into 8 drills systems

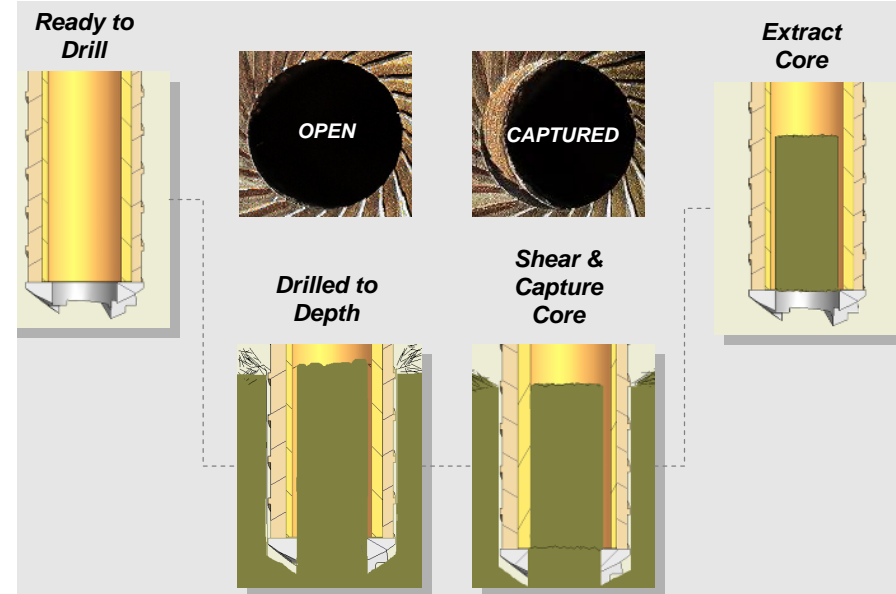
At 7 torr:

- ~2M cycles
- ~19 hrs

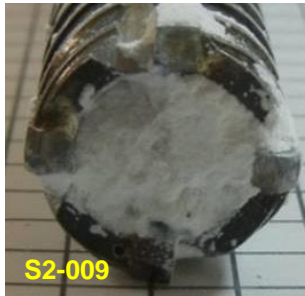
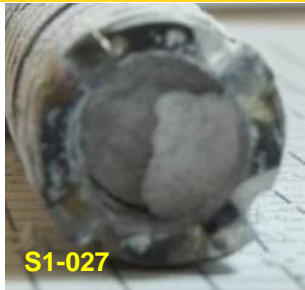


2. Core Breakoff and Retention

- Shears AND Captures the core
- Narrow Kerf:
 - Low Weight on Bit
 - Smaller and Lighter Arm
 - Lower Power and Faster Drill Time
 - Lower Energy
 - Smaller Actuators
- Light and Small Drill Bit
 - Potential for returning cores in bits



3. Core Observation/Verification

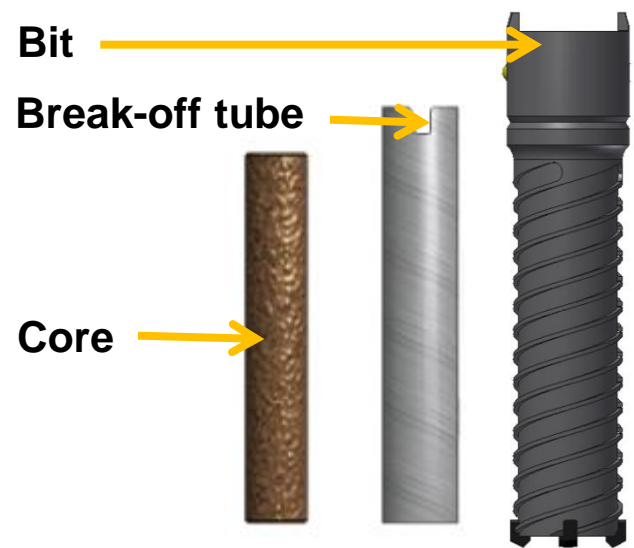


3. SLOT Bit



4. Caching

Bit Assembly

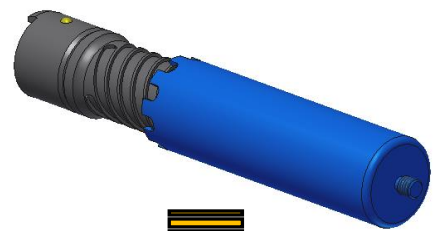


Each core stored in individual bits [spare bits available]

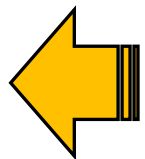
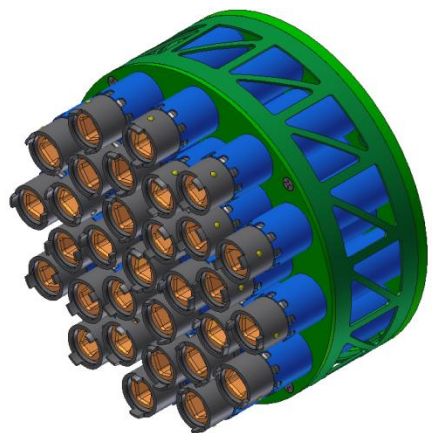


Bit Sleeve Assembly

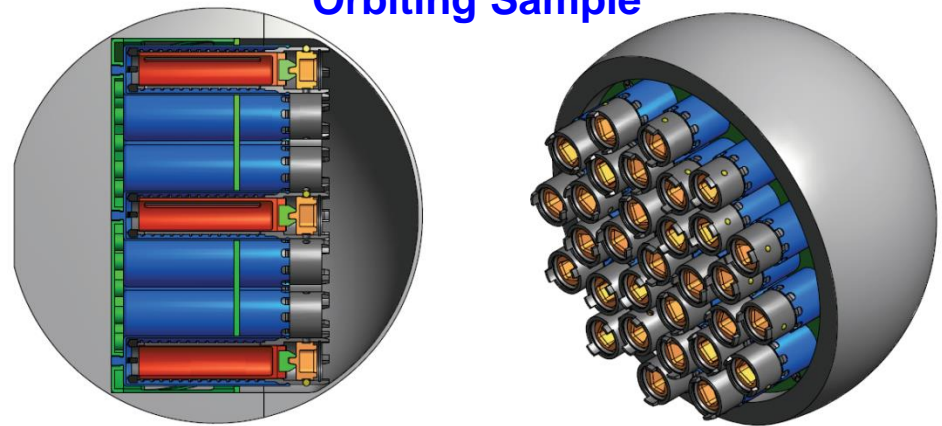
Each bit placed inside a sleeve within the cache and sealed



<2.5 kg (37 rocks)



Orbiting Sample



Example M2020 Architecture

**Brushing,
Abrading**



**Core
Preview**



**Regolith/
Powder**



**SLOT-
Cache**



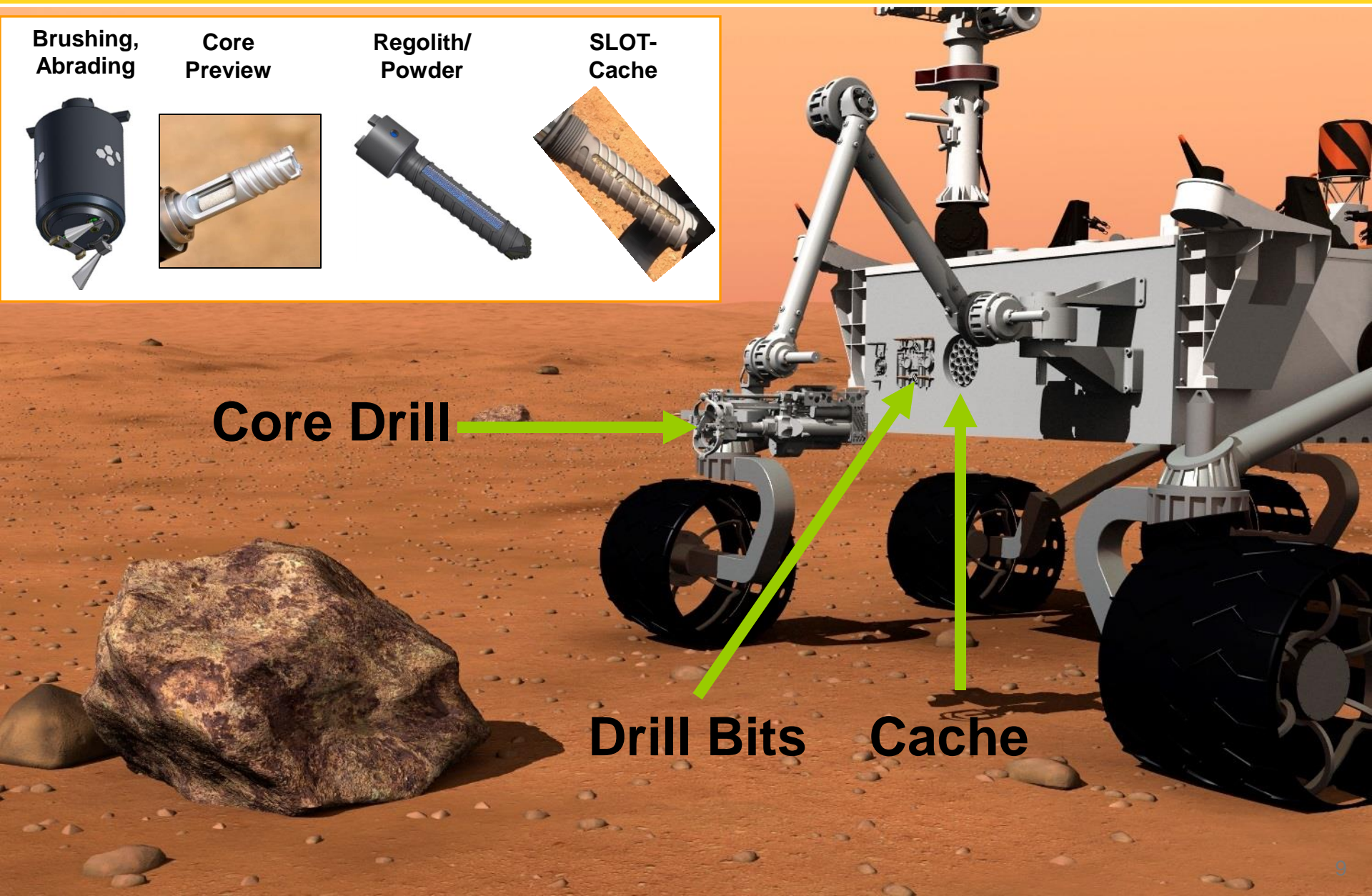
Core Drill



Drill Bits



Cache



Example M2020 Architecture



Mars 2020 - Live Technology Demonstrations

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VhfL3htrtZ8>

Honeybee Robotics - HD Mars 2020 Sample Acquisition and Caching Concept

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NphWPvi9cy4>

Honeybee Robotics - Mars 2020 "SLOT bit" Sample Acquisition and Caching

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cf47bvULtEQ>

Conclusions



1. Rotate and Hammer



Core:

- 8 cc
- >5 cm



2. Break and Capture



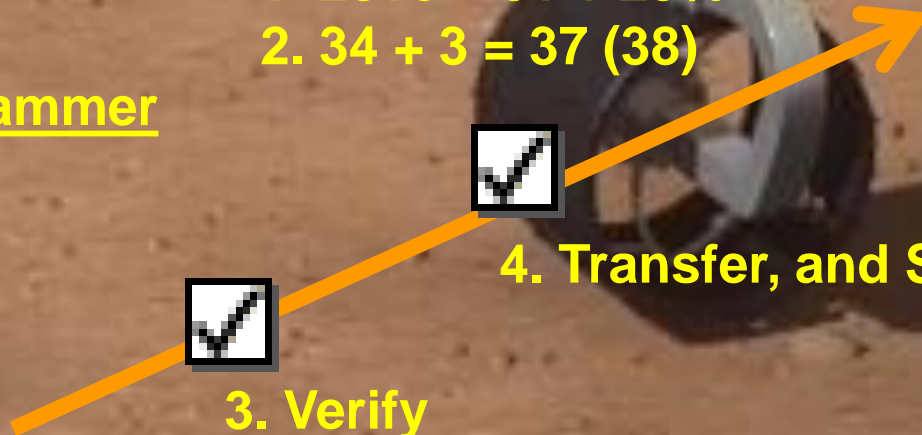
3. Verify



4. Transfer, and Seal

1. $28+3 = 31 + 25\%$

2. $34 + 3 = 37 (38)$



Acknowledgements



- NASA's Mars Program
- NASA SBIR
- NASA PIDDP